MONTEREY NEWS

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Pick up at: the library (outside), transfer station, and later this month at Bracken Brae farm stand.

Monterey News, June 2020 Addendum

Tuesday, June 2

Readers,

The June issue was sent to our printers, KwikPrint, Monday morning, June 1. By early afternoon the papers had been printed, were delivered to the Great Barrington post office for mailing, and the copies for distribution around Monterey had been picked up and brought out to town.

In the afternoon I had a call from Scott Jenssen that he was putting his name up for the open seat on the select board. However, he would have to do it as a write-in candidate as the time for inclusion on the ballot was over. Following that was a statement of his candidacy.

Had this been received even twnety-four hours prior, I would have made every effort to include this in the full printed issue. This is the first time as editor I have published an addendum rather than holding information over to the next month.

The election to the select board is of great interest to the welfare of the town. Scott Jenssen served on the select board for many years, so his announcement as a write-in candidate carries weight. Town elections will be held before the next issue of the *Monterey News* is published. So I decided that in the interest of the town this addendum would be published and circulated via an insert into the printed copies and via the emailed PDF version. Unfortunately, this news is not included in the already mailed copies.

The decision to print this addendum should not be read as an endorsement by the *Monterey News*. The *News* takes no position as a matter of policy, does not endorse candidates, and does not publish editorial opinions.

—Stephen Moore, Editor *Encouraging Community Conversation.*

Candidate Statement

Scott Jenssen for Select Board

While I realize I am late in the game for this year's elections, I would like to put my name in as a write-in candidate for the select board.

I served for nine years on the select board, finishing in 2015. While those were satisfying years supporting Monterey, they also took a toll with some of the dissension and personal attacks that were in the air at town hall. I considered re-entering as a candidate last year, but at the last moment felt that it was not time yet.

As some of you may know, I've had a serious health situation during this past year. During this winter of recuperating and regaining my health and strength, I've had time to re-energize myself.

This year we have another situation with an uncontested election for the role of select board member. The select board is too important to have uncontested elections year-after-year. I still have my "select board" valise, with every warrant and notes from every meeting. I'd like to return to the board a little older, and perhaps a little wiser, to help continue to keep Monterey strong.

Kenn Basler has done an outstanding job looking out for the town's needs both in the short run and for the long term, and has helped guide the town's operations such that we have very well equipped departments, solid departmental leadership with whom I look forward to working, and still one of the very lowest (16th?) tax rates among the 312 towns in the state. I look forward to the opportunity to work with Don Coburn and Steven Weisz. Don and I had our differences when he first came on the board, but we've put that behind us.

I hope the voters will again consider me for the select board. As I am not listed on the election ballot, please write my name in when you vote, whether by absentee ballot or in person on June 30.

Thank you for considering me. Keep Monterey strong!

—Scott Jenssen